

July 25, 2017

Mayor and Council
City Hall - 3rd Floor
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Mayor & Council,

Re: City-wide Development Cost Levy Review - Park Board Implications

On behalf of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, I am writing to inform you that at the Park Board Committee meeting held on July 24, 2017, the Board passed the following motion:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to send a letter from its Board Chair to the Mayor and Council of the City of Vancouver, advising that the Vancouver Park Board strongly objects to the staff recommendation in its report titled “Vancouver City-wide Development Cost Levy Update (2017-2026)”, further that should council approve this recommendation against the stated wishes of the Vancouver Park Board that Council also provide a guarantee to the Park Board that the Park Board’s Development Cost Levy (DCL) allocation will be re-evaluated based on parks capital planning needs in four years (2022), in line with the capital planning process for the 2023-2026 Capital Plan; and
- B. FURTHER THAT the Board direct staff to:
 - i. Update the Park Land Acquisition Strategy to align with the goals and priorities identified through the Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan (VanPlay) process, and to inform the re-evaluation of DCL rates;
 - ii. Develop a strategy to identify opportunities and reconcile Park Board interests in the Property Endowment Fund (PEF) and other non-park City-owned lands with City staff to identify options and solutions for maintaining investment in park acquisition and development, and to help inform the re-evaluation of DCL rates; and
 - iii. Report back to the Board on the above-noted strategies in 2018.

At the July 24, 2017 Park Board Committee meeting, staff [presented](#) on the potential implications to the Park Board’s mandate should Council approve the proposed recommendation to reduce the DCL revenue allocation for parks from 41% to 18%. These impacts were further outlined in the Park Board staff report titled [City Wide Development Cost Levy Review - Park Board Implications](#).

As noted in Recommendation A above, the Park Board strongly objects to the proposed recommendation to reduce the allocation of DCL revenue to parks to 18%, as outlined in the



[Vancouver City-wide Development Cost Levy Update \(2017-2026\) report](#), which is being considered by Council on July 26, 2017. Further, should Council approve these recommendations, against the stated wishes of the Vancouver Park Board, we request that Council provide a guarantee that the DCL allocation for parks be re-evaluated in four years (2022), based on the Park Board's capital planning needs and in line with the capital planning process for the 2023-2026 Capital Plan.

The Park Board looks forward to working collaboratively with Council to identify ways to ensure equitable access to quality parks for all Vancouver residents now and for the future.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Wiebe".

Michael Wiebe
Chair - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
604-257-8448

ee/jk/clc

Copy to: PB Commissioners
PB Senior Management Team
PB Communications
City Clerk's Correspondence Group